

XXXI, NO. 5527.

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trated; for sale by all newsmen.

THE BOERS AND BRITONS

Unconfirmed Rumors of Boer Successes.

ROBERTS' LONG DELAY

The British Commander Said to be Preparing for an Early Ad- vance on Pretoria.

ALIWAL NORTH, April 19.—An en-
gagement took place yesterday at We-
pener. The Boers Vickers-Maxim did
considerable execution at first, but the
British guns soon got the range and
did great havoc. The Rouxville com-
mando has gone to Wepener.

The fighting at Wepener was severe
and lasted all day long. The Boers
received a check. The casualties were
rather heavy on both sides. Another
commando is advancing towards We-
pener from Dewet's Dorp.

Slow Work Ahead.

LONDON, April 15, 5 A. M.—Britons
are now beginning, though reluctantly,
to realize that Lord Roberts is in for a
winter campaign, lasting several
months. This is the end, in a few
words, of the high hopes based upon
Lord Roberts' brilliant dash to Kimber-
ley and Bloemfontein. Preparations
are being made to hold Bloemfontein
against surprises. Lord Kitchener has
been given an important duty, being
responsible for the protection of the
railway, while Lord Roberts is wait-
ing for remounts and winter clothes for
the troops, whose thin cotton khaki
uniforms and boots are worn out.

General Brabant and General Gat-
acre are both at a standstill. Lord
Roberts will probably for some time
confine his operations to clearing the
Free State behind him of raiders and
to the relieving of Mafeking, for which
purpose apparently the Eighth Divi-
sion, now arriving at Cape Town, has
been ordered to Kimberley.

A Possible Defeat.

LONDON, April 11.—A third very
serious defeat has been inflicted upon
the British forces in the Orange Free
State, according to dispatches to the
Daily Mail, quoting advices from Boer
sources. The report of the victory is
that on Saturday General De Wet's
Burghers attacked the British forces,
1500 strong, at Meerksfontein. After
a fierce engagement in which according
to one account, 600 British were killed
or wounded, the Boers captured the
entire command.

The War Office has not made public
any dispatches indicating the possi-
bility of such an engagement, nor do any
press telegrams received from the cor-
respondents with the British army,
many of which bear later date than Sat-
urday, contain any hint of this disaster.
Yet the censorship is very stringent at
present and might easily prevent such
news from reaching England until after
Lord Roberts had seen fit to report on
it.

The Feeling in London.

LONDON, April 12.—Everybody here
is loth to believe the story from Pre-
toria of a further British reverse and
the Boers capturing 900 more men. The
report created something akin to dis-
may in London yesterday, and the pub-
lic, therefore, was quite ready to accept
with joy the statement that the War
Office did not credit the story. The re-
lief felt was all the greater when Lord
Roberts' dispatches arrived reporting
the activity of the Boers in the south of
the Free State, but nothing of any dis-
aster to the British troops.

Still, the feeling exists in London
that they cannot be too sure till an-
other day has passed, for it must be re-
membered that it has usually taken
some time for the British version of
checks and reverses to reach this coun-
try. This is natural when it is taken into
consideration that detached col-
umns from the Free State are operating
at a considerable distance from head-
quarters.

[Latest dispatches throw considerable
doubt on the story of a British defeat.]

An Active Enemy.

LONDON, April 14.—The Times has
the following from Jammersberg, dated
April 13th:
"Colonel Dalgety's force has been
surrounded by some thousands of Boers
with eight guns, two 'pom poms' and
two Maxims, since Monday morning.
They have gallantly withstood a heavy
attack on Monday and again a night at-
tack on Tuesday; and on Thursday
there was a continuous shell and rifle
fire. We are confident of being able to
repulse any attack. Food is plentiful.
Our casualties, in the circumstances,
are small. The brunt of the fighting,
and also of the loss, has been borne by
Cape mounted riflemen."
The Bloemfontein correspondent of
the Morning Post telegraphing Thurs-
day, says: "The enemy have evidently
determined to adopt entirely new tac-
tics. Two columns are known to be
moving to the south of Bloemfontein.

They are relying on Cape carts for
transport and are carrying scarcely
any forage and only sufficient food to
meet the immediate requirements of the
convoy with ox transport following at
a secure distance. The Boer columns
are thus enabled to move almost as
quickly as cavalry. It is reported that
there are 9000 Boers to the south of De
Wets Dorp. The force extends from
that point to Odendahl. The burghers
who had returned to their farms are
undoubtedly rejoining the enemy."

LONDON, April 17.—The Bloemfont-
ein correspondent of the Standard,
telegraphing Monday, says: "The Boers
are in full retreat from Wepener, hug-
ging the Basutoland border. The Bas-
utos are marching parallel with them
along the frontier, watching eagerly
for the slightest encroachment."

The Daily News has the following
from Reddersburg, dated Friday:
"General Chermide saw the rear guard
of the Boers disappear southeast in full
retreat. The enemy appear to be in
strong force four miles east of Red-
dersburg. They are falling back be-
fore our advance guard."

Glances of the Campaign.

NEW YORK, April 17.—(Afternoon
Service).—A dispatch to the Tribune
from London says:

Ladysmith dispatches confirm the
report that the Boers have retired from
the Elands Laagte district to their Big-
garsberg positions. No raiding opera-
tions southward have been reported,
and it is now clear that the Boer ad-
vance was ordered for the sake of em-
ploying the burghers on active duty
and of checking desertions. The British
inactivity in one sense is masterly,
since it demoralizes the enemy.

Sir Redvers Buller's scouts have re-
ported that the Boers have wrecked the
engine house and shafts of three
colliers by heavy charges of dynamite.
These wanton attacks upon private
property have been characteristic of
the Dutch campaign. South Africans
explain them on the theory that the
Boers are aware that claims for dam-
ages to property in Natal and Cape
Colony, which will be presented after
the war, can never be assessed against
the farmers of the two common-
wealths, but will be liquidated by the
mine owners of the Rand. Accord-
ingly the Boers feel at liberty to inflict
as much damage as possible, since the
indemnity will come out of the form-
ing industry of the Rand in the form
of taxation based on the profits of the
companies. The theory is correct with-
out doubt that Johannesburg will pay
the piper when the war is over. Neither
Pretoria nor Bloemfontein has re-
sources for liquidating war indemnities
and bills for damages.

An official bulletin issued at Pretoria
contains a survey of the military situ-
ation in the various sections and im-
plies that there is activity all along
the line. The Boer officials evidently
find it necessary to convey the im-
pression to their own people that the
Dutch forces have not disbanded, but
are actively employed at various
points. The only fresh claim of victory
in this dispatch is a report that
General Froneman has defeated a British
column and driven it across the
Orange river. There is no confirma-
tion of this story from British sources
and, on the contrary, the attack on
Col. Dalgety's force near Wepener has
slackened and there are persistent ru-
mors that General Brabant has relieved
the garrison after defeating the
Boers. General Brabant is on the
way to Wepener with a strong mount-
ed force and reinforcements from Natal
are behind him. General Chermide
with a full division, is also moving
east from Reddersburg and the
Boers may be caught in a corner some-
where in the southwestern section of
the Free State.

The general situation at Bloemfont-
ein is unchanged. Military experts
here do not expect an advance north-
ward for a week or ten days, since
Lord Roberts is waiting for large ship-
ments of horses, which have barely ar-
rived at Cape Town. They are also
convinced that General Buller will re-
main on the defensive and not attack
Biggarsberg until the enemy's force
has been drawn off by Lord Roberts'
invasion of the Transvaal. It is con-
sidered probable that Generals Hunter
and Brabant will work their way up
to Wepener and Ladybrand, and in
this way protect Lord Roberts' line of
communications.

On the Eve of Advance.

LONDON, April 17.—(Afternoon Ser-
vice).—At last Roberts seems to be
on the eve of making his main advance
towards Pretoria. Unless all the usual
reliable sources of information and all
the indications smuggled past the cen-
sor are at fault, the British army with-
in a few days will be marching north-
ward. After many premature and un-
founded reports that have purported
to tell of this move there is naturally
even in the best informed quarters con-
siderable hesitancy in settling upon the
day Lord Roberts is likely to leave
Bloemfontein, but there is a settled im-
pression that it will occur either at the
end of this week or the beginning of
next. The long, weary wait in the Free
State capital has apparently effected a
much needed rehabilitation, though it
is probable Lord Roberts would still
further have delayed his advance had
not the Boer activity forced him to
put his forces in such positions that un-
less they quickly proceed northward
the strategic advantage will be lost.

The critics agree in the supposition
that the advance will be made in par-
allel columns with a broad front west of
the railroad, the third and eighth divi-
sions sweeping northward to the ex-
treme northwest, the entire force
amounting to 75,000 men.

Exactly what part General Buller
will take is still a secret, which no one
is able to probe.

From the seat of war there is signif-
icant silence. From The Hague comes
the news that the Boer delegates re-
fuse to make public the object of their
mission. They hope to be received by
Queen Wilhelmina, but nothing in this
direction has yet been decided upon.

DEWEY AND HIS CHANCES

Various Comments on His Campaign.

MRS. DEWEY LEAVES ROME

Why the Admiral Hates President McKinley—Chairman Jones Tells His Mind.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—The re-
port of Mrs. Dewey's change of faith,
although admitted neither by the Ad-
miral or herself, has been verified
among her intimate friends, many of
whom attend St. John's Episcopal
Church. Admiral Dewey is very much
attached to St. John's. He has held a
few times ever since he has lived in
Washington. One of his first deeds
after his return from Manila was to
secure a pew in his old place of wor-
ship. Soon after he was elected a
member of the vestry and one of the
directors of the Episcopal cathedral
fund.

It is believed that in deference to
his wishes Mrs. Dewey has consented
to return to the church she attended
before her conversion, first from Pres-
byterianism to the mystic doctrines of
Theosophy, and then to the Roman
Catholic church.

Talks of Dewey's Wife.

MEER, Col., April 13.—Judge Ha-
zen, brother-in-law of Mrs. Dewey, a
prominent Western Colorado, speak-
ing today of Admiral Dewey's an-
nounced intention of going before the
people as a candidate for the Presi-
dency, said:

"I am not in a position to say much,
but if the people of this country do not
desire to place the destiny of the na-
tion in the hands of a woman, it will
be best to let the Admiral remain
where he is. I know Mrs. Dewey very
well, of course. She was my brother's
wife. She is a bright, capable, ambi-
tious woman, quite familiar with pub-
lic affairs at Washington."

This was all Judge Hazen would
consent to say about the matter.

The Admiral's Campaign.

WASHINGTON, April 13.—Admiral
Dewey's political statement probably
will be ready to be given out for pub-
lication next Tuesday. He is still
waiting to hear from some of his
sound money Democratic friends in
New York before giving out the im-
portant document. He believes that he
has behind him all the sound money
Democrats in the East and the South,
and in conversation with his political
friends he says that he is a sound
money Jefferson Democrat.

On the expansion issue he occupies
middle ground between the President
and Mr. Bryan. He is neither an im-
perialist nor an anti-expansionist. He
believes in restoring order in the
Philippines and then holding the is-
lands and awaiting developments, prob-
ably in the end turning them over to a
native government under a United
States protectorate.

The Admiral receives a large amount
of mail daily from prominent men in
all parts of the country, principally
from business men and sound money
Democrats.

He believes that New York will send
uninstructed delegates to the Kansas
City convention, that the New Jersey
delegates can be controlled in his favor
and that he will have support from
other Eastern States. He expects most
of his original support from the East-
ern States, but he believes that when
the proper time comes the convention
can be carried by storm for him just as
the Chicago convention four years ago
was swept off its feet for Mr. Bryan.
He was much gratified today to re-
ceive an invitation from New Orleans
to visit that city, and when he goes to
Detroit on June 6th it is his intention
to take a swing around the circle and
go to New Orleans on his return.

Why Dewey Hates McKinley.

CHICAGO, April 14.—A Washington
special to the Inter Ocean says: The
Dewey mystery is explained at last.
The reason for the Admiral's sudden
announcement of himself as a Presi-
dential candidate and his bitter feel-
ing toward McKinley are cleared up by
a discovery made today.

Admiral Dewey furnished a clew to
the explanation by complaining to
friends that Mr. McKinley unjustly de-
prived him of \$10,000. In the Admi-
ral's opinion the President "robbed
him."

The basis for the charge is the fact
that President McKinley has been un-
able to pay Admiral Dewey the same
compensation as that received by ci-
vilian members of the late Philippine
Commission, to wit, \$10,000. The
President wanted to pay this sum to
the Admiral, but the law would not
permit. That section of the statute
which says no one shall hold two of-
fices of trust and profit under the
United States Government, where the
compensation exceeds \$2,500, was in
the way, and though the President
tried to find a way around the statute
neither he nor his law officers were

able to do so, and Dewey cannot have
his \$10,000.

A month ago Dewey called at the
White House and asked Mr. McKinley
about compensation for his services as
a member of the commission. The
President told him he wanted to pay
him the same as other civilian mem-
bers were to receive.

Dewey then volunteered to the Presi-
dent that, in his opinion, there was
but one candidate for President in this
country—that there should be but one
—McKinley.

"You have earned election and the
people will give it to you," the Admi-
ral said.

Dewey then went on to say that he
had always been a Republican; that
he was originally a Republican on the
slavery issue, was afterward a Repub-
lican on protection, then on the mon-
ey question, and was now a Republi-
can on expansion. He thanked the
President for all past kindnesses and
went away in a happy frame of mind.
A few days later he started on his tour
through the South.

When Dewey returned from his
Southern trip the first thing he heard
at the office of the Secretary of the
Navy was that the law would not per-
mit him to draw \$10,000 compensation.
The Admiral lost his temper. He
swore at the President in a most bit-
ter way. He paced the floor of the
room, exclaiming that McKinley had
robbed him, had deprived him of his
just dues, had treated him like a dog,
and trumped up this legal obstacle for
the purpose of cheating and robbing
him.

Incredible as it may appear, these
were his expressions. He apparently
could not find words vicious enough to
express his feelings.

The Admiral declared he would have
vengeance, and in a day or two not
only the people of the country, but
Dewey's most intimate friends, were
amazed and surprised at his announce-
ment that he was a candidate for
President. From that day to this the
Admiral has been complaining of Mc-
Kinley and of the Administration in
general, and, through his fault-finding,
the first information concerning the
matter leaked out.

An investigation in Administration
circles discloses great unwillingness
to talk about the case. It is not de-
nied the President refused to pay De-
wey the sum paid to other members of
the commission, but Mr. McKinley has
issued orders that not one word be
said about the affair by any of his ad-
visers.

Chairman Jones Talks.

NEW YORK, April 17.—(Afternoon
service).—A special to the Herald from
Washington says:

Senator Jones of Arkansas, chairman
of the Democratic National Committee
said last night that he had no idea
what Admiral Dewey's intentions were,
or what line of action he would pursue
to obtain a presidential nomination.
So far as the National Committee as
a body was concerned, no letter or com-
munication had been addressed to the
admiral on the subject of his candi-
dacy. Speaking for himself Sen. Jones
said he had not written to the Admi-
ral inquiring whether he would en-
ter the Kansas City convention and
abide by the result of the convention,
but added:

"It is quite probable, however, that
others are more curious."

"It is quite possible," continued he,
"that Admiral Dewey may be suggested
in connection with the vice-presiden-
cy, but I have not the slightest idea that
he will be proposed seriously as a pre-
sidential candidate. Public sentiment
has already decreed that Mr. Bryan is
to be the nominee of the regular Demo-
cratic party and in my judgment the
men who will represent the Democratic
party at Kansas City will carry out the
will of the Democratic masses and
name Mr. Bryan."

"So far as Admiral Dewey is con-
cerned I have no means of knowing
whether he proposes, as a Democrat,
to come to the regular organization and
abide by the consequences, or whether
he and his friends intend to hold an
independent convention similar to that
which named a third party ticket four
years ago headed by General Palmer."

Senator Jones then explained that he
was not seriously considering the can-
didacy of Admiral Dewey because he be-
lieved it to be the result of a movement
originated by certain so-called Demo-
crats who did not vote for Mr. Bryan
four years ago and who have no in-
tention of doing so if he is again named
as the party standard-bearer. He ad-
ded that it was not usual for a candi-
date that he proposed to be the candi-
date for any particular party and dic-
tate a policy which is supposed to be
antagonistic to all the principles of the
party from which he seeks support.

"If," said Senator Jones, "Admiral
Dewey declared himself to be a Demo-
crat he will receive a cordial welcome
into the fold, for the American people
are proud of him for his gallant and
meritorious services in their behalf.
There are other good Democrats who
rendered valuable service to their coun-
try during the Spanish-American war
and the Admiral will not be lonely in
the Democratic ranks. He will probably
receive such consideration as he de-
serves, but he will have to abide the
result of the convention, whatever it
may be."

Sugar Prices Advanced.

NEW YORK, April 10.—Arbuckle
Brothers today advanced the price of
refined sugar 5 cents per 100 pounds.
Two weeks ago the Arbuckles cut the
price of refined sugar 5 cents per 100
pounds. This reduction was made di-
rectly after an advance in the price of
raw sugar. The American Sugar Re-
fining Company did not follow, and the
advance by the Arbuckles today brings
their price back to that of the Haver-
meyer Company.

Plague at Sydney.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., April 13.—It
was officially announced today that 111
cases and thirty-eight deaths from bu-
bonic plague have occurred here.

HAWAII TO GET A CABLE

Three Million Dollars Appropriated.

BY WAY OF EXPERIMENT

If the Line Works Well it May be Extended to the Philip- pine Islands.

WASHINGTON, April 11.—With lit-
tle debate of consequence the Senate to-
day passed the Pacific cable bill, a
measure appropriating \$3,000,000 for
the construction of a cable between
San Francisco and Honolulu. The bill
was unanimously reported by the Com-
mittee on Naval Affairs, and that it was
passed without serious objection is re-
garded as a compliment to the commit-
tee. The bill as reported to the Senate
is a substitute for the measure as
originally introduced by Hale. It car-
ries an appropriation of \$3,000,000 for
the project.

The bill provides for a cable from
San Francisco to Honolulu, the work
to be done under the supervision of
the Navy Department, which has made
surveys and determined the practicabil-
ity of the route.

Hale explained that the bill provided
for the building of the cable from San
Francisco to Honolulu. This, he said,
would be in the nature of an experi-
ment, and upon the result of it would
depend in a measure the future course
of the Government. It might be de-
cided desirable in the light of experiment
to start the Philippine cable from some
point like Seattle and proceed to Japan
by the northern route.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

It Looks More and More Like War Between Them.

NEW YORK, April 15.—A Times
cable from London says: The Russian
and Japanese question is simmering
along in a manner unpleasantly sug-
gestive of an approaching conflict. The
present indications are not favorable to
the view that the strife will immedi-
ately break out, but both parties are angry,
and Japan has more grievances against
Russia than those founded on the latter
power's endeavor to encroach on the in-
dependence of Korea. The fishing dis-
pute in Northern Japanese or Russian
waters, for one thing, was recently
acute enough to impel Japan to rush a
bill through her Parliament imposing
prohibitory duties upon all descriptions
of salt fish coming from Russia.

"I need not burden you with details
of this dispute, beyond mentioning that
for half a century Japanese fishermen
have been left free to ply their calling
around the island of Saghalien, and
that lately Russia took steps to destroy
this is not inconsiderable industry. This
spontaneously brought into existence
Japan's retaliatory action, and has
caused the government at St. Peters-
burg to postpone for a year the enforce-
ment of its decrees. But that clearly
does not end the dispute, which is one
containing abundant material for em-
bitterment unless frankly and squarely
treated."

WANTS SUGAR STOCKS LISTED.

Edward Politiz in New York on an Important Mission.

NEW YORK, April 19.—Edward Pol-
itz of San Francisco is in New York
endeavoring to secure the listing by
the Stock Exchange of the more im-
portant Hawaiian sugar stocks. He is
at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, and in
discussing his mission expressed him-
self as being quite confident that he
would succeed. No expression is yet
obtainable from the officials of the
Stock Exchange who will deal with
the matter. The value of the Hawai-
an stocks is well known here, and at
present it is not anticipated that there
will be any very serious objection to
the plan. If Mr. Politiz succeeds his
work will prove very valuable to the
business interests of both Honolulu
and San Francisco.

Passion Play Decried Resented.

CITY OF MEXICO, April 15.—The
new order of the Archbishop of Mexico
regarding the Passion Play, customary
on Good Friday, was observed in the
valley of Mexico, although the masses
resented the prohibition of the spectacle
which has been a feature of Holy Week
for centuries, originating with the
clergy when they were christening the
Indians.

But at Yautepre, in the State of Mo-
relos, the people assembled at the pa-
rish priest's home, demanding that he
distribute as usual the costumes of the
Passion Play. This he refused to do.
It is reported that he was driven out of
town, the people declaring they would
not stand such a priest and must be
allowed the ancient customs.

Conan Doyle says veldt fighting is